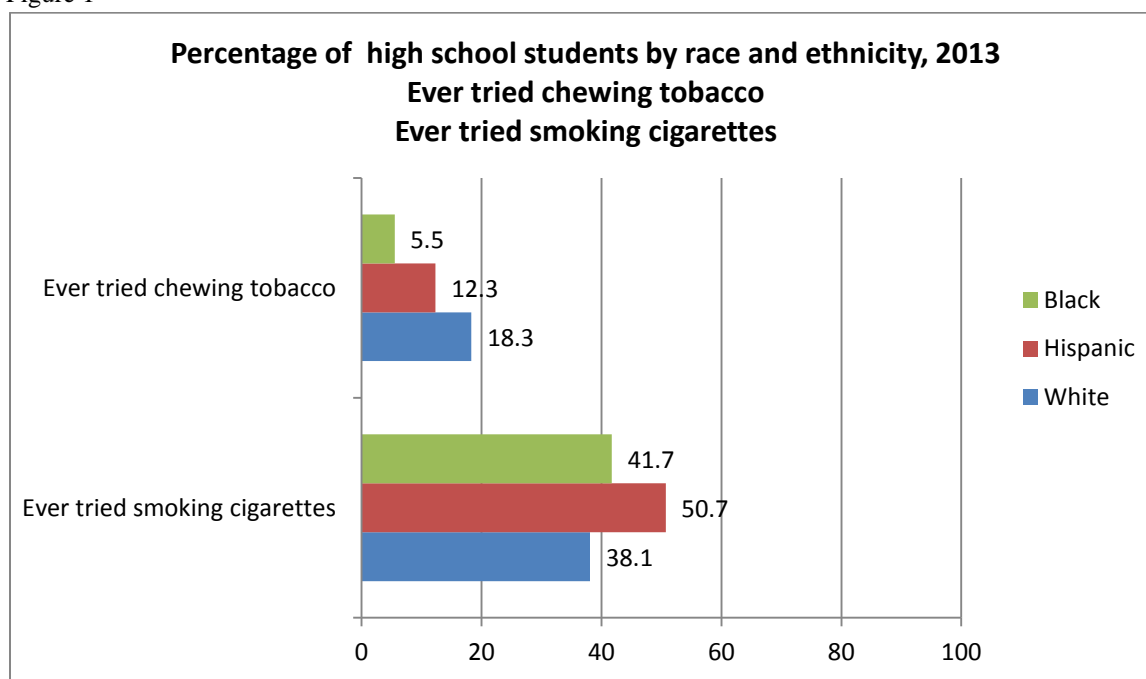


**Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Health Risk Behaviors  
Among Missouri High School Students  
Results from the 2013 Missouri Youth Risk Behavior Survey**

***Tobacco Use***

A significantly greater percentage of non-Hispanic white high school students had ever tried chewing tobacco than non-Hispanic black students (Figure 1). A significantly greater percentage of Hispanic students had ever tried smoking cigarettes than non-Hispanic white students.

Figure 1



***Alcohol Use***

A significantly greater percentage of Hispanic high school students (37.0 percent) than non-Hispanic white students (18.9 percent) had tried drinking alcohol before the age of 13. Sixteen percent of non-Hispanic black students drank alcohol before age 13, which was not significantly different from non-Hispanic white and Hispanic students.

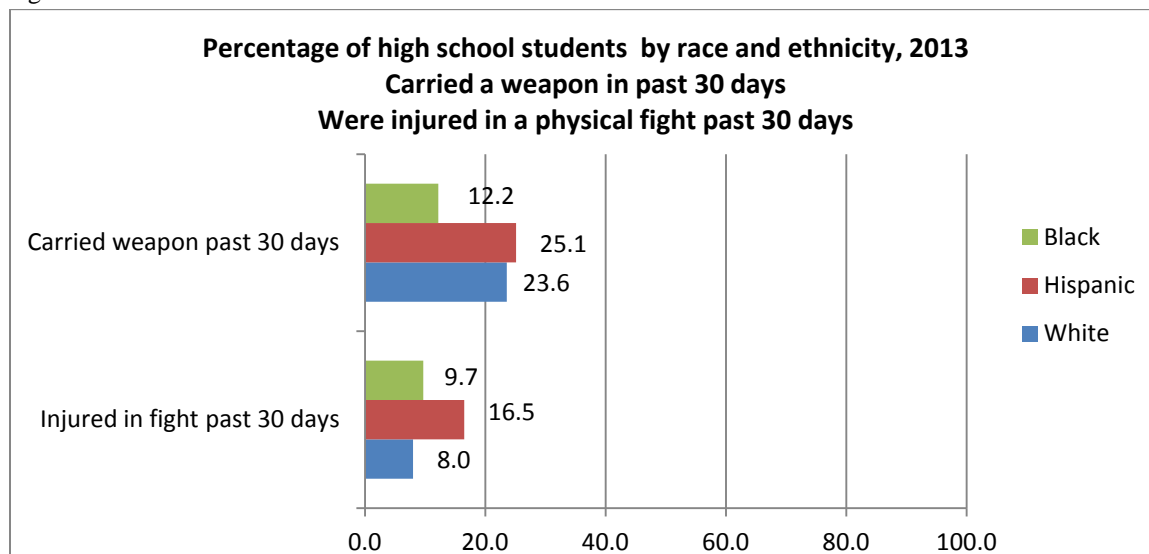
***Rode with someone who had been drinking alcohol***

A significantly greater percentage of Hispanic high school students (35.7) than non-Hispanic white students (17.4 percent) had ridden in a vehicle with someone who had been drinking alcohol during the past 30 days. Twenty four percent (23.7 percent) of non-Hispanic black students rode with someone drinking, which was not significantly different from non-Hispanic white and Hispanic students.

### ***Weapon Carrying and Physical Fighting***

A significantly greater percentage of Hispanic high school students had carried a weapon during the past 30 days than non-Hispanic black students (Figure 2). A significantly greater percentage of Hispanic students than non-Hispanic white students were injured in a physical fight during the past 30 days that required medical treatment.

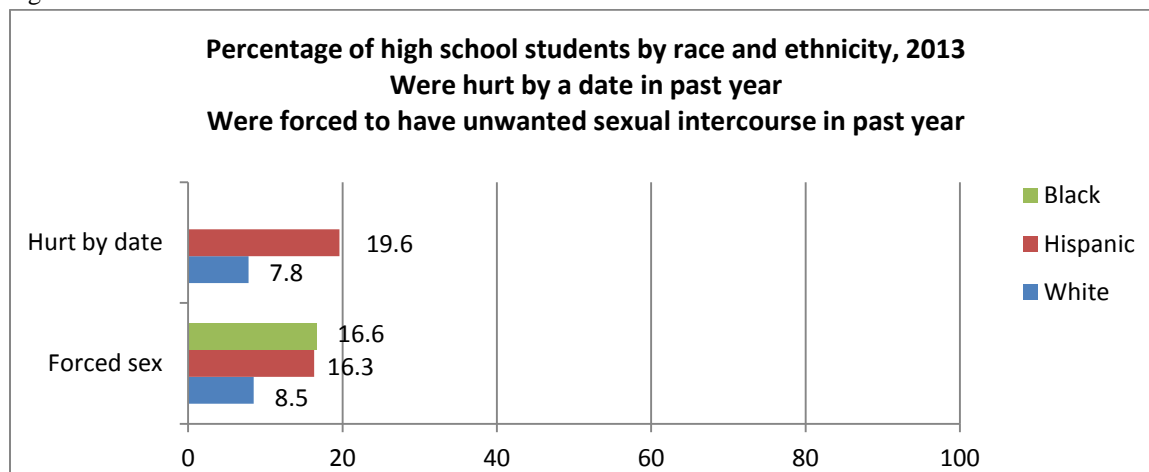
Figure 2



### ***Forced Sexual Intercourse and Dating Violence***

Compared to non-Hispanic white students, a significantly greater percentage of Hispanic high school students had been physically hurt by someone they were dating in the past year (Figure 3). Also, a significantly greater percentage of non-Hispanic black students than non-Hispanic white students were forced to have unwanted sexual intercourse during the past year.

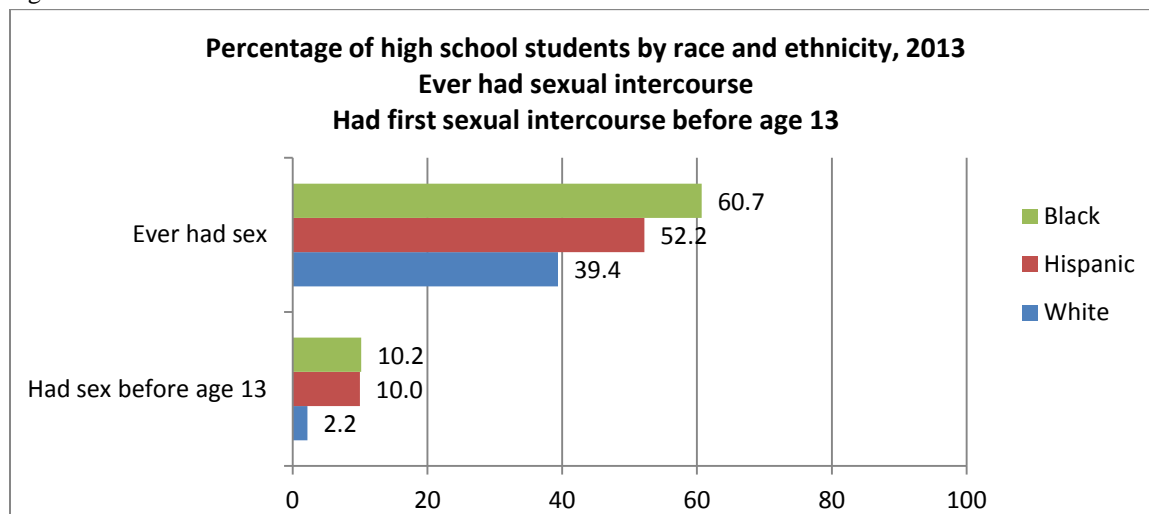
Figure 3



### ***Sexual Intercourse***

A significantly greater percentage of non-Hispanic black high school students had ever had sexual intercourse than had non-Hispanic white students (Figure 4). A significantly greater percentage of non-Hispanic black and Hispanic students had sexual intercourse before age 13 than did non-Hispanic white students.

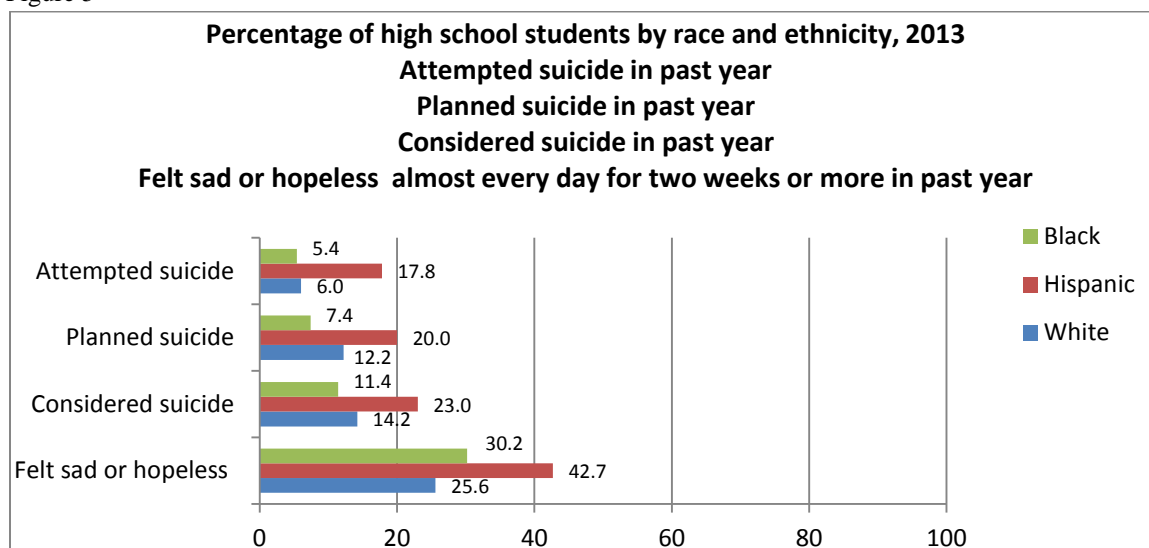
Figure 4



### ***Depression and Suicide***

Compared to non-Hispanic white students, a significantly greater percentage of Hispanic students felt sad or hopeless during the past year (Figure 5). A significantly greater percentage of Hispanic than non-Hispanic white or black students considered, planned or attempted suicide during the past year

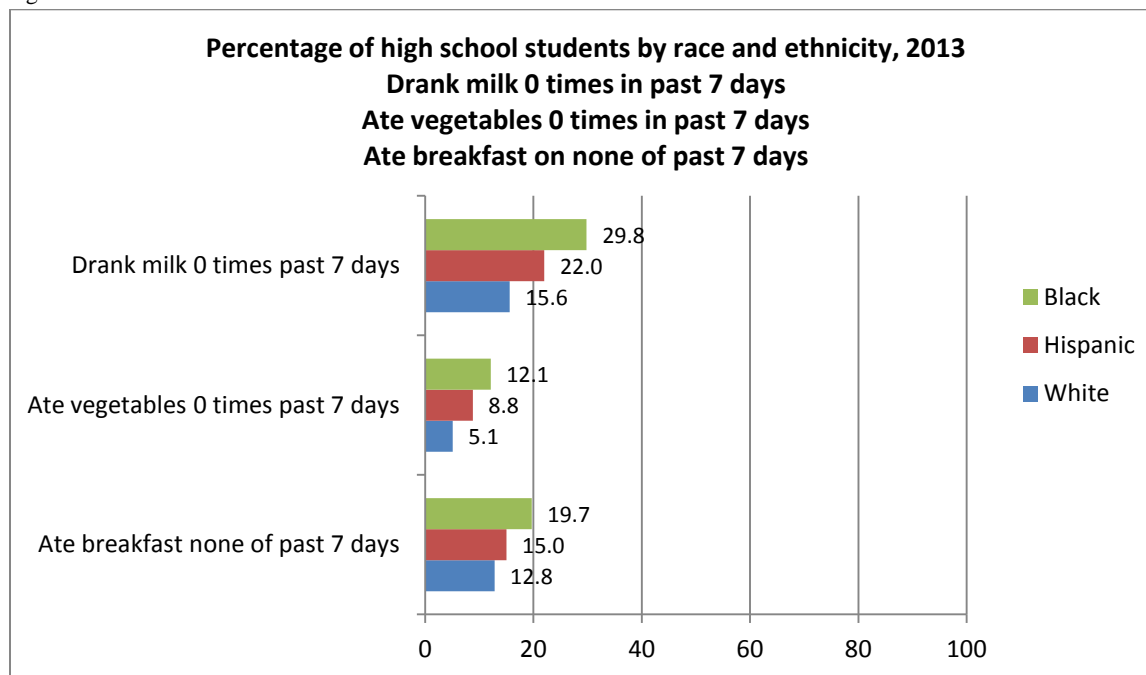
Figure 5



### ***Dietary Behaviors***

Compared to non-Hispanic white students, a significantly greater percentage of non-Hispanic black students did not drink milk, or eat vegetables or breakfast during the past seven days (Figure 6).

Figure 6



### ***Television viewing***

A significantly greater percentage of non-Hispanic black students (43.8 percent) watched three or more hours of television per day on an average school day compared to non-Hispanic white students (21.8 percent). Thirty-one (30.5) percent of Hispanic students watched television for three or more hours per day on an average school day, which was not significantly different from non-Hispanic black or white students.

### ***Seat Belt Use***

A significantly greater percentage of Hispanic students (23.9 percent) than non-Hispanic white students (9.8 percent) never or rarely wore a seat belt when riding in a car driven by someone else. Fifteen (14.6) percent of non-Hispanic black students never or rarely wore a seat belt, which was not significantly different from Hispanic or non-Hispanic white students.

**Data Source:** The 2013 Missouri Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) was conducted by the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services in randomly selected high schools and classrooms during the spring of 2013. For details about the YRBS, go to <http://health.mo.gov/data/yrbss/index.php>.